

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 060416

46

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /061 R

DRAFTED BY EA/LC:JBROH-KAHN:JY

APPROVED BY EA/LC:LMRIVES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 060416

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LA,CB

SUBJECT: LAO AMBASSADOR'S VIEWS OF CAMBODIAN SITUATION

1. LAO AMB KHAMPHAN PANYA HAS TOLD DEPTOFF THAT IF CONGRESS VOTED CUT OFF AID TO CAMBODIA, HE WOULD RETURN TO LAOS AND SETTLE OWN AFFAIRS BEFORE EVENTUAL COMMUNIST TAKEOVER THERE. DEPTOFF REPLIED THAT VOTE ON CAMBODIAN AID STILL UNDECIDED AND THAT EVEN IF IT WENT AGAINST CAMBODIA WOULD NOT SIGNIFY CHANGE IN US POLICY TO SUPPORT PGNU IN LAOS.

2. OTHER CHANNELS REPORT THAT SOUVANNA HAS ALLUDED TO QUESTION OF US SUPPORT FOR CAMBODIA AND SOUTH VIETNAM AS CONTRIBUTING FACTOR TO HIS VIEW ABOUT NECESSITY FOR PRAGMATISM IN LAOS. APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S CONTINUING ASSESSMENT OF HOW SITUATION IN CAMBODIA AND SOUTH VIETNAM ARE AFFECTING LAOS AND HOW LAO BELIEVE THEY WILL EFFECT THEM. INGERSOLL

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